

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Medium Term Financial Plan 2022-25: Revenue and Capital Budget</b>
<b>FOR CONSIDERATION BY</b>	Community and Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 03 November 2021
<b>WARD</b>	None Specific;
<b>LEAD OFFICER</b>	Deputy Chief Executive - Graham Ebers

<b>OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY</b>
Financially sustainable Council and value for money services in accordance with priorities.
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
To consider the report and identify areas of productive exploration.
<b>SUMMARY OF REPORT</b>
This report presents to CCOSC the revenue and capital bids for the Adult Social Care and Children's directorates. Detailed bid templates for revenue bids of £50,000 or more and capital bids are now provided for scrutiny.

## Background

The Council annually undertakes its budget setting process for all its financial activities including General Fund Revenue Account (funded primarily by Council Tax), Housing Revenue Accounts (funded by tenants), Schools (funded by Government) and Capital (funded by various capital resources).

On the 06 October 2021, the committee were briefed on the strategic context, summary of the latest revenue and capital position, risks, and the timetable for future committee meetings for the budget setting period 2022/2023.

The committee are presented with revenue and capital bids for the Adult Social Care and Children's Services directorates. To allow the committee to have a greater focus on the budget submissions, business case templates are presented for revenue and capital. For revenue, this will focus on a threshold of over £50k. For capital, bids have been evaluated using the following criteria to establish which business cases should be presented to this committee.

The criteria for Capital is:

1. De-minimis level of £200k – business cases under this level are not presented as considered de-minimis.
2. Re-profiled from current year – business cases not presented if the budget is re-profiled from the current financial year. These will have already been approved in the last MTFP process and the re-profiling also agreed through the quarterly capital monitoring reports to Executive.

3. In previous MTFP – business cases that were identified in the previous MTFP for 22/23 onwards have not been presented. For these items, an additional slide has been included in the presentation pack which explains these bids in more detail. These are typically rolling programme bids or future placeholder bids.
4. Business cases are included for new bids and are represented for previously supported bids and are not included the slide referenced above.

All revenue and capital business case templates have been agreed by the relevant director and lead member.

The Council still awaits details of the provisional finance settlement, due December 2021. Any significant changes arising from this will be reported to the O&S committee on 05 January 2022.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION**

***The Council continues to face severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of reductions to public sector funding and growing pressures in our statutory services. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions of approximately £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context***

	How much will it Cost / (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	See other financial implications	Y	Both
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	See other financial implications	Y	Both
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	See other financial implications	Y	Both

<b>Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision</b>
There are no financial implications associated with the scrutiny process, however, the full MTFP, when submitted to Council in February 2022, will have to represent a balanced budget, and the 2022/23 capital programme will be fully funded.

<b>Cross-Council Implications</b>
This is in respect of budgets across all Council services.

<b>Public Sector Equality Duty</b>
Equality Impact Assessments have not been undertaken at this stage, however initial consideration has been included in the capital bids where appropriate. A full equalities appraisal will be required before specific proposals are agreed and implemented.

<b>Reasons for considering the report in Part 2</b>
N/A

<b>List of Background Papers</b>
None

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